



City of Ridgecrest Police Department

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Ronald N. Strand, Chief of Police

Press Release

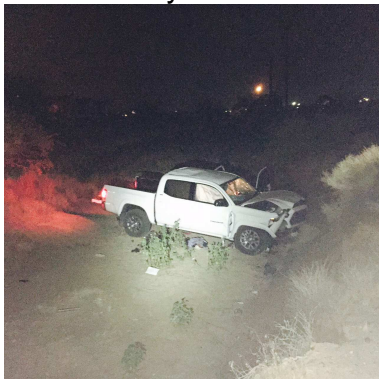
DATE OF INCIDENT: 08/21/2016
TYPE OF INCIDENT: VEHICLE PURSUIT/HIT AND RUN/DUI-CAUSING INJURY
LOCATION OCCURED: 800 BLOCK OF S. ALLEN ST.
SUSPECT: CAMACHO, HUGO RAMIREZ - 35 YEARS-OLD

On 08/21/2016, Officer Cory Huard attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a truck for speeding in a residential neighborhood and for failing to stop at a posted stop sign. The truck "blackened out" its exterior lights and began to flee Officer Huard through the residential neighborhood. As the truck traveled S/B on S. Allen St. at an extreme high rate of speed, it failed to turn at the end of the street. The suspect vehicle slammed through fence of the Bowman drainage canal and crashed into the opposing embankment of the canal. The driver of the vehicle then fled the scene on foot.

Pursing RPD officers found numerous occupants in the vehicle including one in the truck bed. All occupants were injured with some having major injuries. EMS personnel from the Kern County Fire Department and Liberty Ambulance extricated the victims from the vehicle. One victim was transported to the Antelope Valley Hospital and the rest were transported to Ridgecrest Regional Hospital (RRH).

The driver of the vehicle was identified as Hugo Camacho, a Ridgecrest resident who lived near the collision scene. Camacho was located several hours later in the residential neighborhood south of the scene. Camacho was initially taken into custody on charges of Hit and Run, DUI causing Injury, and Evading Police. He was taken to RRH for medical treatment.

Due to injuries caused by the collision, Camacho was released from police custody and subsequently transported to Kern Medical Center for treatment. Criminal charges are being requested through the Kern County District Attorney's Office.



Prepared By: Sgt. Justin Dampier

RONALD N. STRAND - Chief of Police
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